

1500/18

A

CIRCUMSTANTIAL NARRATIVE

OF A LATE

REMARKABLE TRIAL.

TO WHICH ARE ADDED,

SOME LETTERS THAT WERE PRO-
DUCED ON THE OCCASION.



L O N D O N:

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A

NARRATIVE, &c.

THURSDAY morning, July 5, at eight o'clock, being the first sitting after term, came on before Lord Mansfield, in the court of King's-bench, the long depending and much celebrated cause between Lord Grosvenor and his Royal Highness the Duke of Cumberland, for *crim. con.* with Lady Grosvenor, the damage being laid at one hundred thousand pounds.

Mr. Wedderburn, council for the plaintiff, after stating the case, which took up very near an hour, entered into

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observations

observations on it, as well as the contents of the letters. He asked (as the words *mutual feelings*, and I hope I shall never have reason to *repent* this confidence, were mentioned in one of her letters) ‘ What *mutual* feelings should pass between a married woman and any other person but her husband ? Or, why the word *repent* should be used, if it did not strongly imply a foregone dishonour ?’ He observed, ‘ that it would be given the jury in evidence that his R. H. had assumed the fictitious name of *Morgan*, a country ‘squire, not very *sound* in his *understanding* ; that he had taken down a servant with him to St. Albans, who went by the name of *Trusty*, for the purposes of carrying on this intrigue with greater security.’ He therefore asked, ‘ What pain of mind it must cost his R. H. for one of his elevated station, to associate himself for several days with his own servant, pass under a fictitious name, and forego all those honours and distinctions usually paid to his rank, if he



he had not this dishonourable scheme in pursuit ?

After finishing these observations, which were made with great accuracy and judgment, he told the jury ' that they had two principal objects for their observation ; the first was the very great quality of the defendant, and the second the irreparable injury sustained by the plaintiff ; as to the former, he said, no given sum could be punishment sufficient, as the elevated rank, and situation of life he sustained, should the more deter him from setting a bad example to the subordinate classes of society.' He observed, ' There were certain situations in life, that made the same offence more criminal in one than another, on account of the greater duties they may owe the offended party in particular, or society in general ; this he instanced in the case of a servant prosecuted for *crim. con.* with his master's wife, when the damages were laid very considerable, though the offending party had no fortune to bear it ; and this

this he said was done for very wise purposes; to point out to society the greater breach of duty in a servant, from whom confidence, respect, and fidelity, were more immediately expected.' He observed, in the present case, though the damages may be thought to be laid high, yet as it was all the punishment the law could inflict, none of it ought to be remitted, as they had it now in their power to convince his R. H. in particular, and every man of rank in general, ' That the laws of England in the hands of a British jury, are always superior to situation and connections. He likewise hoped, that this would, in future, direct his R. H. to nobler pursuits than the seduction of the wife of a peer, and incline him to copy from a very near relation of his (meaning his majesty) whose conjugal attachments, abstracted from his other virtues, not only ornamented the throne he filled, but shed a bright example to his subjects in general.'

' And

‘ And now, gentlemen, continued the learned and eloquent council, I shall leave you in possession of these sentiments, and only direct one thing more to your consideration; which is, that you have now before you the chastity and honour of the sex, the sanctity of marriage, and the custody of British morals, as your determination will severally operate on each of these.’

Several witnesses were then called, the first of whom was,

The Rev. Mr. Taylor,

A clergyman, and chaplain to Lord G. proved the marriage of Lord G. with Miss Harriet Vernon, on the 19th of July, 1764, it having been solemnized by this witness on that day, proved their having lived happily and well together from that time until the present affair.

Elizabeth Sutton,

Was employed to take care of the Countess of Dunhoff's house, when the family

family were out of town—Knew Lady G. —Said that the Countess of Dunhoff went out of town in the month of May, 1769, and stayed five weeks in the country. That the day the Countess went out of town, Lady G. came in the evening about seven or eight o'clock, and said her brother would come there that evening, and then Lady G. ran up stairs into the drawing-room; in about half an hour after, a gentleman came in a chair, with a double knock, the curtains of the chair were drawn very close. He had on a blue great coat,—he got out of the chair, and ran up stairs very quick, he went into the drawing-room, where Lady G. was. The witness did not follow him into the room, but went up about half an hour after with candles. The lady and gentleman were then sitting on a couch, close to one another. The witness shut up the windows, and left the room. She said they staid till about a quarter past ten o'clock. That it was then about the latter end of May.

That

That Lady G. went away in her coach. She, this witness, wondered the gentleman did not go away with the Lady; but that soon after, he came down stairs, and went away on foot. The gentleman was very fair, with light hair, and large eyes, had a scar on the side of his neck. The very next night after, they came again, both of them, in the same manner as before, and staid pretty much the same time. Lady G. went away alone, and the gentleman soon after. They never did stay later than eleven o'clock any night—That they came three or four nights one after another in the same manner. That one evening as the gentleman was going away, the husband of this witness, a labouring man, happened to be in the hall, and upon her saying that the gentleman was Lady G's brother, her husband made answer, "No, you fool, that he is not, I am sure, for that gentleman is the D. of C."—She said that the couch did remain and con-

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tinue

tinue in the drawing-room at all these several times of their coming.

Cross examined.

She said that Lady G. always came in her own coach, and attended by her own servants—that until the husband of this witness gave her cause to think otherwise, she always verily believed that the gentleman was Lady G's brother.—That she never observed the door to be locked when she went up at any time, when they were there.

Samuel Sutton,

Husband to the last witness, said, that he knew the person of the D. of C. and that he saw him about the latter end of May last one evening, at the Countess of Dunhoff's house, and informed his wife who he was.

John Bourne,

Servant to the Countess of Dunhoff, in the capacity of postilion, had lived with her three years and a quarter.—

Remem-

Remembered to have seen the D. of C. at his Lady's house about a year ago, who then asked him to carry a letter to Lady G. and not to tell his own Lady of it.—He was to take the letter as if it was from the Countess of Dunhoff—which he accordingly did, and the duke gave him half a guinea for his trouble.—Said he still continued to be servant to the Countess of Dunhoff.

The Duke's letters to Lady G. were then produced, — Mr. Dunning, the Duke's council, admitted them to be genuine, and they were read by the clerk. (See them in the Appendix.)

Thomas Dennison,

One of Lady G's footmen, remembered about February, 1769, that he attended his Lady to Almack's, that he was ordered to return at eleven o'clock at night; that she then went away in a figured chair to the Countess of Dunhoff's, in Grosvenor-square, where he saw the D. of C. come in at that time.—

He remembered that in the month of May, 1769, his Lady was at Cravenhill, near Paddington, and came from thence frequently to the Countess of Dunhoff's.—That he had often attended Lady Grosvenor to St. James's palace, about the latter end of April, or the beginning of May, 1769, where she was set down at the fore gate, that he had seen her then go cross the court-yard at St. James's into the park, and go in at the D. of C's. back door in the park, attended by the Countess of Dunhoff, and that upon these occasions, which were generally at about eight or nine o'clock in the evening, it was Lady Grosvenor's custom to discharge the coach, and order it to come again in two hours time; after which she returned through the park the same way to her coach; that this happened four or five times.—That about the latter end of September, in the same year, he had attended Lady G. to Kensington gardens, where the D. of C. had frequently met

met her.—That in the month of October, in the same year, he attended his Lady down into Cheshire. The first night she lay at St. Alban's, the next night at Towcester, the third night at Coventry, the fourth night at the Four Crosses, the fifth night at Whitchurch, and the sixth night at Eden-hall, in Cheshire, the seat of Lord G. That after his Lady's arrival there, he observed she walked out in very dirty weather, and in very dirty fields. That he remembered going once to deliver a message to her in the fields, and saw her with a man, sitting down or lying down he could not tell which, that upon seeing him she suddenly got up and ran towards him, that he did verily believe the man to have been the D. of C. That whilst his Lady came towards him to take his message, the man seemed to skulk behind a tree. That on the 21st of December last, he attended his Lady at St. Alban's, where she was that day on her return to London. That he, this witness, being
already

already gone to bed, was called up by Mr. Stevens, the butler, who likewise attended Lady G. on her journey to London. That Stevens told him there was a man locked up with their Lady in her bedchamber, and that he had called him, this witness up, because it was his, Stevens's intent, to break open the door, which he did accordingly effect with an iron poker, that when the door was broke open, he saw the D. of C. standing in the middle of the room, drest, that it was then about eleven o'clock, that Lady G. got to the opposite door, which led to another room, that the D. was buttoning his waistcoat, which had been open.—That Lady G's neck was naked, that her dress was such an one as did button down before, and likewise buttoned at the wrists. That he thinks they call it a Jesuit.—The D. upon the discovery being made, stood very much confused, like a statue, and could not speak, that when he did, he said, Gentlemen, I hope you will not hurt me.—He then attempted

tempted to go out, but Stevens called out, stop that gentleman. As soon as the D. had got into another room, he said, take notice, I was not in Lady G's room, to which Stevens made answer, no, you are not now, but you was this minute, to which the Duke replied, he would take his bible oath he was not in my Lady's room. This witness observed the bed to be very much tumbled, but not the bolster, said that he knew the D. very well, that his coat was darkish, his waistcoat of a light colour, that he had a silk handkerchief about his neck, and a dark round wig on, that he had white breeches, and white stockings.

Cross Examined.

Said that when he saw his lady first in the fields, he was upwards of a hundred yards off; but when he delivered his message, he was not twenty-yards off; said that when he attended his Lady to Kensington-gardens, Lady Carolina Vernon, was usually with her; said that at St. Albans, the servants of the house were
not

not at the breaking open of the door, but that they did come up soon after, and before the bed had been examined.

Edward Bennet,

One of Lady G's footmen, remembered going with his Lady in the month of June 1769, to Carlisle-house along with Lady Harrington. They staid there about three-quarters of an hour, and then came away; remembered to have kept places at Drury-lane in the month of February 1769, that the D. of C. came into the box and sat down, and told him he need not to stay any longer, for that he, the D. of C. would take care of the place for Lady G. Remembered that in the month of April or May 1769, his Lady and the Countess of Dunhoff, went several times in the coach to St. James's palace, and from thence walked through the Court-yard into the Park, and so in at the D. of C's back door, &c. Confirmed the evidence of the last witness as to the St. Alban's affair, with this addition,

addition, that he this witness, put his ear to the key-hole of the door, and could plainly perceive two voices whispering to each other, upon which Mr. Stevens and this witness broke the door open.

Robert Gedding,

Said he was porter to the D. of C. that he *had* seen Lady G. acknowledged that he did attend the D. of C. to St. Alban's in the month of October 1769, did not remember the precise hour of the day they arrived there but believed it was in the afternoon. That there was one servant with him besides this witness, that he was a groom, and his name John Swan, that they lay at St. Albans, and went forward next day through Stony-Stratford, lay at Towcester next night, remembered that the Duke's chamber-door was chalked by him, this witness, and said it was his usual custom to do so, said that the D. was dressed plain like a country farmer, and this witness in the same manner, and passed for such kind

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of

of people by fictitious names, which he, this witness gave them of his own accord without any orders for it from the D. that they came back to London the next morning from Towcester, sat out from thence, about two in the morning, but returned back in the evening *from* London, the same road again; that they went on all night, lay at Coventry the next night, and at the Four-Crosses the night after, did not know there was any other company at the inn, that they got to Whitchurch the next night, but at what hour could not tell. The next day at Barnhill, where a family went by, whom they found afterwards to have been Lord G's. They then went to Chester, and from thence to Eden-hall, where his R. H. went to visit Lady G. The next day he went also to visit Lady G. and came back to the Falcon at Chester, where they called each other farmers, and passed as such, did not recollect that he did chalk the door of the Duke's chamber when at the Falcon at Chester.

The

The next day the D. went again to visit Lady G. said that his R. H. never went into Lord G's house at all, nor even into the garden, except on the Saturday which was the first day, but always saw her on the outside of the garden rails, that they lay on the Monday at Marcourt-heath, saw Lady G. on Tuesday, lay that night again at Marcourt-heath, and returned to London the next day, that the occasion of their sudden return was, this witness thought that his R. H. was known at Marcourt-heath, and therefore advised him by all means to return to town immediately, said positively that his R. H. did not at any time go into the house of Lord G. remembered that he received a parcel undirected from Lady G. in the month of December, in answer to a similar parcel which he had carried down to her from the D. of C.

Cross Examined.

Said that until their arrival at Barnhill he did not in truth know that the D's journey at all related to Lady G. declared

that at every visit the Duke made to Lady G. this witness was present, and in fight the whole time, that sometimes they were walking, sometimes standing, sometimes sitting on the ground. He said that at St. Alban's, on the 21st of December, he observed a man in a blue coat who was boring holes in the door of Lady G's bed-chamber, and that he this witness acquainted the Duke therewith, that at the time of the breaking open the door, the witness was in bed but got up directly, being roused by the noise, that when he came into the bedchamber, my lady was gone, and the Duke was not there, that the condition the bed was in was as if *one* person had been *sitting* upon it, and no more, merely the pressure of *sitting* upon it and no more.

John Burton,

Said he was waiter at the Tun-inn, at Towcester, that in the month of October last, two persons were at the Tunn-inn, who passed for farmers, whom the witness believed to have been Mr. Gedding
and

and the Duke of C. said that he this witness attended them both at supper, and remembered to have told them both, when at table, that Lady G. was in the house with her family; remembered that the two persons sat out towards London, at two o'clock in the morning.

Jane Charlton,

Lived at the Four Crosses in October last, that sometime in that month, a gentleman and two servants came there, the gentleman was low in stature, that she had seen him since, and knew him to be the D. of C. The servants said his name was Morgan, and that he was rather disordered in his mind. Remembered that his chamber-door was chalked. That there was another family in the house that night, Lady G's, who lay herself in the next room to the gentleman.

Sarah Richardson,

Lived servant at Whitechurch in October last at the Red Lyon inn, that Lady
G.

G. came there one day in that month with her servants; that she desired to see the chambers, which this witness shewed her; that she was shewn one of the best rooms in the house, which she did not like, and made several objections to, that she afterwards went through the rest of the rooms and made choice of the worst room in the house; that it was noisy being near to stables, that some of the windows were broke, and the room very damp. That she remembered two gentlemen were there, which were, as she has since discovered, the D. of C. and Mr. Gedding, that they had a servant with them. That the D. past for a young Squire, one Squire Morgan, who was a little foolish in his mind, and travelled about for his health, under the care of the other gentleman, Mr. Gedding, who went by the name of Farmer Trusty.—That she remembered the young Squire's chamber-door had a chalk mark upon it, and she likewise remembered the room Lady G. made choice

choice of was in the same passage, and nearly opposite to the young 'squire's chamber.

That Lady G. went to bed about nine o'clock, and that about twelve o'clock, as she this witness was sitting in the bar below, along with a fellow-servant adjusting their money accounts before they went to bed; that they heard a rustling of cloaths in this same passage, that this witness would have gone up stairs to know what was the matter, but her fellow-servant stopped her, saying, It is only the foolish gentleman; and added, don't go up, perhaps the fool may harm you. That when this witness made the young squire's bed the next morning, it was most exceedingly tumbled, so as she never saw any bed that had been lain in only by one person, and there were she did not know how many pins in the bed. That she observed nothing particular in Lady G's bed.

Mary

Mary Spencer,

Said that she was mistress of the Red Lyon inn at Whitchurch, remembered in the month of October last the two gentlemen being there, who past for 'squire Morgan and farmer Trusty together with a servant; — remembered the young 'squire's chamber-door being chalked; remembered Lady G's being there, and her choosing the worst room, whilst the others were vacant.

John Jones,

Said that he kept the inn on Marcourt heath, that the D. of C. came there in the month of October last, and stayed several nights. That he went by the name of farmer Jones; and had another person with him called farmer Trusty. That he staid till about the 3d of November.

John Andrews,

Said he was servant to Lord G. remembered his lordship came down to Edenhall

hall on the 3d of November last. That he this witness came there on the 2d of November, both from Newmarket.

Matthew Stevens.

Said he was butler to Lord G. was at St. Albans, at the White Hart inn, on the 21st of December last attending his lady and the family from Cheshire, that they came in about half past five o'clock, that upon arriving there, he made enquiry and found there were two gentlemen in the house, one of whom he had strong reasons to believe was the D. of C. That this witness took an opportunity in the evening to bore two holes in the door of the bed-chamber his lady had made choice of, and stopped them with paper. That he then went down, attended his lady at supper, and carried in a dish of meat to the table, that his lady retired to her chamber before nine o'clock. That he made her a negus, as was his custom, and carried it into the parlour, but finding her gone, he went up stairs with it to her chamber. That

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she

she took the negus of him at the chamber-door, and shutting the door turned the key upon him. He went down and fetched his brother John Stevens, who kept the Wool-pack at St. Albans, and returning some time after, he took the paper from the holes in the door, and applying his ear, very plainly perceived two voices, one of which he knew to be Lady G's, he could not however distinguish any words. That soon after John Andrews the groom bringing him word the D. of C. had ordered a chaise to be ready at two o'clock in the morning, he was determined to lose no time, and therefore he resolved to break open the door immediately, that he did so with an iron poker. That the door broke at the hinges, and not at the lock ; that the first object he saw was the Lady G. endeavouring to escape into the next room ; in doing so, she fell down, that this witness assisted her to get up. That her ladyship then said, " I suppose you think you have done a very fine thing now."

That

That this witness answered her, " My lady, I am sincerely sorry for the occasion." To which she said, " I am sure you are." That the duke got into the next room, and then said, " Take notice, I am not in my Lady G's room," to which this witness made answer, " No, you are not now, but you was this minute," to which the Duke replied, " He would take his bible oath he was not in my lady's room." That the D. was asked by this witness, who he was ? To which he made no answer. That this witness called in the rest of the servants, who all declared they knew him to be the D. of C. upon which the D. was told, that his person was very secure, and that he might go wherever he pleased. That the bed was very much tumbled, as much so as a bed could be. That the sheets were exceedingly tumbled, and a dent on the farther side of the bed, like the impresson of a head. That when he bored the holes in the chamber door, he remembered there was

no other light in the room but that of the fire, that no candle was in the room.

Cross examined.

Said that he did not know any lady of the name of Charlotte Wynn or Miss Williams, nor did he in the year 1765. That this witness did remember to have carried a letter from Lord G. to a lady at the Falcon inn at Chester, but did not remember her name. Thought that it was a message for the lady to come to Lord G. to speak with him. That he thought the lady might have been about five or six and twenty.

That this witness did not observe any thing very particular about Lady G's dress, as she turned about very quick. Nor did he observe any thing very particular about the D's dress.

John Stevens.

Brother to the last witness, and kept the Wool-pack at St. Albans. That on the 21st of December last between

tween ten and eleven o'clock, his brother broke open the door of Lady G's bedchamber, and confirmed the last witness in all that followed.

The council on the other side then entered into observations on the several evidences where Mr. Dunning shewed his usual ingenuity during a speech of two hours and three-quarters, and then called

Mrs. Langford,

Who said she was mistress of the Whitehart-inn, at St. Alban's, that upon her coming into Lady G's room, the bed appeared to her as if it had been set upon by somebody, especially on that side next to the fire, but did not appear at all, as if it had been lain upon, that Lady G. appeared much in the same dress, as when she came in, that her head dress did not appear at all disordered.

Cross Examined.

Did not recollect that she had at any time since declared, that she had not particularly

ticularly observed the situation of the bed.

Sarah Gilby,

Said she was chamber-maid at the White hart, at St. Albans, saw the room after the door was broke open, that Lady G's servants and the waiters of the house were all there, that she saw my Lady G. that her hair appeared no ways disordered, that the bed was flatted on one side, as if it had been set down upon, but not as if it had been laid upon. This witness said that she warmed Lady G's bed twice that evening.

Cross Examined.

Said she gave the key to Lady G. which was before on the outside of the door and this she did before she carried away the warming pan, that the corner of the sheets were a little tumbled, acknowledged a paper, that was shewn to her, to have been subscribed by her, but says that when she signed that paper, she was very much flurried, and it was so soon after

after the affair, that she could not then recollect what had past *so well*, as she had been able to do since.

Thomas Robinson,

Said that he was waiter at the Whitehart, at St. Alban's, thought the bed had the appearance of having been sat down upon, but to the best of his belief, did not appear to have been laid upon.

Mrs. Beau Germain,

Said that she knew Lord G. had known him ever since the year 1768, that she was introduced to him, by one Mrs. Muilman, who lives in Crown-court, in Westminster; that she this witness, first saw Lord G. in Jermyn-street, at a stay-makers, where lodgings were taken for her by Mrs. Muilman, in order for her to see Lord G. in them, said she had particular connections with Lord G. as man and wife, that she was known to him by the name of Sarah King, that she continued in that lodging three weeks, that she did not afterwards see Lord G. for
eight

eight months, when she saw him at Miss Woodfall's in Oxford-road, that she lay-in in April 1769, that the child was Lord G's, of whom she received a 20 pound Bank note.

Cross Examined.

Acknowledged she knew Mr. Gedding, the Duke of C's porter very well, that he came to her lodgings in order to bring her the subpoena, that she told Mr. Gedding, the whole story some time ago and came there merely to serve Lady G. and to support the cause of the whole sex, said she was married to a Captain of a French ship, and that they have expectations from a brother of her husband's.

Mary Howe,

Said she knew Lord G. had seen him at Mrs. Lloyd's house, where she came to lie with Lord G. That she did do so. That she saw him three days after, the same again. That she saw him next day but that nothing at all past then.

Cross examined.

Said that she lived in Mercer-street, Long-acre, and knew Lord G's person, if she saw him.

Mary

Mary Waten,

Lived in Bolton-row, said she knew Lord G. and had seen him at her house, that he came to see some waistcoats belonging to Mrs. Tremilly.

Ann Tremilly,

Said she knew Lord G. and that he came to Mrs. Waten, in order to relieve her [Mrs. Waten] she being in very great distress; said she knew Mrs. Gunning, and that she met my Lord G. at Mrs. Waten's once or twice.

The defence rested here, after which the council for the plaintiff replied. About seven o'clock Lord Mansfield gave his charge to the jury, which lasted little more than half an hour, when the jury withdrew, and his lordship adjourned the court to his house in Bloomsbury-square. Exactly at ten o'clock the jury left the hall, and proceeded in four coaches to his lordship's house, when they gave a verdict for the plaintiff with
TEN THOUSAND POUNDS damages.

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A P P E N D I X.

L E T T E R I.

MY ever-dearest Love how sorry I am that I am deprived the Pleasure of seeing this Evening but especially as you are in pain God grant it over upon my knees I beg it altho' it may go of for a few days it must return and then you will be easy my only joy will be happy, how shall I thank for your very kind Note your tender manner of expressing your self calling me your dear friend and at this time that you should recollect me. I wish I dare lye all the while by your Bed and Nurse you—for you will have no body near you that loves you as I do thou dearest Angel of my Soul O that I could but bare your pain
for

for you I should be happy what grieves me most that they who *ought to feel* dont know inestimable Prize the Treasure they have in you thank God if it should happen now Mr. Croper is out of Town and you may be quiet for a few Days—I shall go out of Town to night but shall stay just for an answer pray if you can just write me word how you find yourself, I shall be in Town by eight Tomorrow Evening in hopes of hearing again I am sure my Angel is not in greater pain than what my heart feels for my adorable Angel I sent this by D—servant she is gone to Ranelagh do if you write direct it to her the Boy has my orders & will bring it to me—Adieu God bless you and I hope before Morning your dear little one

Directed to

Lady G——.

LETTER II.

MY Dear little Angel I am this instant going out of Town ten thousand thanks for your kind note I am sure nothing could make my aking heart to night bearable to me than when you say you are sensible how much I love you pray God it may be over before morning or that you may be better I shall be in Town at eight o'clock for I shall long to know how you are dont mention to D that I wrote by her servant to you for I have ordered him not to tell—Adieu Good night God bless the Angel of my Soul Joy and Happiness without whom I have no comfort and with whom all happiness alive au revoir I hope very soon

Directed to

Lady G——.

LET-

LETTER III.

MY Dear little Angel, I wrote my last Letter to you yesterday at eleven o'clock just when we sailed I dined at two o'clock and as for the afternoon I had some music I have my own servant on board that plays and a couple of hands from London for the six weeks I am out we were a good many at Dinner I had about 9 People Yesterday and shall have more when the rest of my Squadron join me they staid with me till near seven I got to supper about 9 o'clock but I could not Eat, and so got to bed about 10—I then prayed for you *my dearest love kissed your dearest little Hair* and laye down and dreamt of you had you on the dear little *couch* ten thousand times in my arms kissing you and telling you how much I loved and adored you and you seemed pleased but alas when I woke I found it all dillusion *nobody by me but myself at Sea* I rose by time at half
past

past five and went upon Deck there I found my friend *Billy* and walked with him for about an hour till Barrington came to me we then breakfasted about eight o'clock and by nine I began and exercised the Ships under my command till twelve it is now one and when I finish this Letter to you my dear Love I shall dress and go to dinner at two o'clock it is a rule on board to dine at two, breakfast at eight and sup at nine—always if nothing hinders me I shall be a bed by 10 or soon after and up by half past 5 in the morning in order to have if there is any occasion orders ready for the Fleet under my command before I begin to exercise them—I am sure the account of this days Duty can be no pleasure to you my love yet it is exactly what I have done and as I promised you always to let you know my motions and my thoughts I have now performed my promise this day to you and always will untill the very last letter you shall have from me which will be when I between
 5 and

5 and 6 weeks hence send the Admiralty word that I am arrived at Spithead then I shall only wait just for their answer which will be with me in a few hours to strike my Flag and then I shall return to you that instant O' my love mad and happy beyond myself to tell you how I love you and have thought of you ever since I have been separated from you the wind being contrary to day about one I put off dinner till three o'clock in order to anchor Ships for this Night in Portland Road just off Weymouth about 2 Miles I hope to sail tomorrow by 5 in the Morning I hope you are well I am sure I need not tell you I have had nothing in my thoughts but your dearest and long for the time to come back again to you I will all the while take care of myself because you desire *my dear little Friend* does the Angel of my heart pray do you take care of your dearself for the sake of your faithful servant who lives but to love you to adore you and to bless the moment that has made you generous enough

enough to own it to him I hope my dear
 nay I will dare to say you never will have
 reason to repent it, the Wind was not
 so contrary but we could have failed on
 but I told Barrington that as it was not
 fair I would anchor especially as I could
 send one of my Frigates in for that I had
 dispatches of consequence to send to
 London indeed my dear Angel I need
 not tell you I know you read the reason
 too well that made me do so it was to
 write to you for God knows I have wrote
 to none else nor shall I at any other but
 to the King God blefs you most amiable
 and dearest little creature living—*aimons*
toujours mon adorable petite amour je
vous adore plus que la vie mesme

I have been reading for about an hour
 this morning in Prior and find these few
 lines just now applicable to us

Now oft had *Henry* changed his fly Dis-
 guise,
 Unmarked by all but beauteous Har-
 riets eyes ;

Oft

Oft had found means alone to see the

Dame,
And at her feet to breathe his am'rous
flame :

And oft the pangs of absence to remove
By letters soft interpreters of Love
Till time & industry (the mighty two
That bring our wishes nearer to our
view)

Made him perceive that the inclining fair
Receiv'd his vows with no reluctant ear ;
That *Venus* had confirmed her equal
Reign

And dealt to Harriets heart a share of
Henry's pain.

Such is my amusement to read those
sort of things that puts me in mind of
our mutual feelings and situations now
God bless you till I shall again have an op-
portunity of sending to you, I shall write
to you a letter a day as many days as you
miss herein of me when I do they shall
all come Friday 16 June God bless I
shant forget you God knows you have

F

told

told me so before I have your heart and
it lies warm in my breast I hope mine
feels as easy to you thou joy of my life
adieu:

Directed to

Lady G——.

L E T T E R IV.

Portland Road Saturday 17th June

MY ever dearest little angel the
wind to day is not fair so I shall
laye here in Portland Road till it is and
take this precious moment in sending
this other Note to you I hope it will find
you well and that you are not afraid of
being gone out of Town before I return
back to you thou loveliest dearest Soul I
have been reading since my last Note of
Yesterday to you a great deal out of
Prior keeping the *Heroine* bye till I have
read quite thro' and find many things in
it to correspond with us exactly

Hear

Hear solemn Jove; and conscious Venus
hear;

And thou bright Maid, believe me,
whilst I swear,

No Time, no Change, no Future Flame
shall move

The well-plac'd Basis of my lasting love.

Do not think I wanted
this Book with me to tell me how well I
loved you, you know the very feelings
of My heart yet it is great pleasure when
I am reading to find such passages that
coincide so much with my own ideas of
dear you, I will write constantly it is my
only entertainment that and hearing from
you will be except my Duty on board the
only thought or employment I shall have
or even wish I have just now had a mes-
sage from shore it is about 2 Miles from
Weymouth to go to the rooms this
morning, I have excused myself being
much quieter on Board and happier in
writing to you, You are not there or else
the Boat that should carry me would go
too

too slow I long for that happy moment
 that brings me back again to all I love
 and to all that I adore—indeed I am
 sorry my letters are so stupid pray write
 to me you know whether to send them
 to D— or to Mrs. Reda—I long to
 hear from you it is now within two days
 of a fortnight indeed it seems forty thou-
 sand years, how happy when we meet
 that our letters has opened to each other
 the very feelings of our honest hearts—
 permit me to name yours with mine then
 they will be words and happy looks from
 two of the most sincere Friends alive
 Your heart is well altho' fluttered while
 I write to you I hope mine is hurried
 too they ought to have the same emo-
 tions I know they have they are above
 dissembling I must now conclude God
 bless You I send you ten thousand kisses
 pray when you receive this return them
 to me for I want them sadly

Addieu je vous aime adorable

F. I. N. I. S.

